

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-10, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Minakuchi (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0098288) in view of Nenov et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,062,509). In response, Applicants amended independent claims 1, 10 and 12 to clarify that when the information item is determined as inconsistent, the resolving of the inconsistency occurs by one of modification of a previous registered information item or reinput of another information item in combination with the deletion of the information item, and respectfully traverse the rejection because the cited references fail to disclose or suggest this feature.

Minakuchi is directed to a selection set evaluation device and sale management device. As acknowledged by the Examiner on page 4, third paragraph of the outstanding Office Action, Minakuchi does not explicitly disclose when the information item is determined as inconsistent, resolving the inconsistency by one of modification of a previously registered information item or reinput of another information item. However, the Examiner asserts Nenov teaches this feature.

Nenov is directed to a system and method for product data standardization. On page 5, lines 11-15 of the outstanding Office Action the Examiner asserts Nenov teaches the above-described features because Nenov discloses creating a new standardized product code when a new product is introduced. Applicant respectfully traverses this statement of the Examiner.

FIG. 10 of Nenov shows at steps 180, 182, and 184, and also the related description at col. 18, lines 33-52 that a new standardized product code is created

when a product is new to the system. A SPC creator module 82 uses various information of the product under consideration to assign a brand identifier and packing standard for the new standardized product code. The SPC creator module 82 can display various information for the product under consideration to an analyst for assistance in making the assignment of a brand identifier in a packing standard. After a new standardized product code has been created, at a step 184 the SPC creation auditor module 84 audits the newly created standardized product code. At a step 186, the assignment of the standardized product code for the product under consideration is finalized. Accordingly, Nenov merely teaches creating a new standardized product code when there is no existing product code for that item.


Nenov fails to disclose or suggest that when an information item is determined as inconsistent, having the inconsistency resolved by either modification of a previously registered item a reinput of another information item. In addition, Nenov fails to disclose or suggest the steps in combination with deletion of the information item. For all these reasons, withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claims 1-5, 7-10, and 12 is respectfully requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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